Keeping in Touch

News and Notes from the
Fellowship Offices
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JANUARY 1986

NOVEMBER

TOP 20 TITHES

(Received by December 15, 1985)

1.	MCC Dallas	Dallas,	TX	$2,047.43
2.	MCC of the Resurrection	Houston,	TX	1,585.23
3.	MCC San Diego	San Diego,	CA	1,046.49
4.	Ch.of Holy Spirit MCC	Ft. Lderdle,	FL	924.51
5.	MCC Long Beach	Long Beach,	CA	884.05
6.	MCC Washington	Washington,	DC	843.01
7.	MCC in the Valley	No. Hollywood,	CA	775.84
8.	MCC Los Angeles	Los Angeles,	CA	772.84
9.	MCC San Francisco	San Francisco,	CA	620.21
10.	All God's Children MCC	Mpls.,	MN	619.01
11.	Christ Chapel MCC	Santa Ana,	CA	604.09
12.	MCC of the Disciples	Washington,	DC	578.88
13.	MCC New York	New York,	NY	561.00
14.	MCC of Grtr. St. Louis	St. Louis,	MO	535.43
15.	Agape MCC of Ft. Wrth	Ft. Worth,	TX	515.91
16.	St. Luke's MCC	Jacksonville,	FL	457.48
17.	MCC of the Pomona Valley	Ontario,	CA	402.00
18.	MCC Portland	Portland,	OR	398.04
19.	MCC San Antonio	San Antonio,	TX	383.68
20.	MCC Tampa	Tampa,	FL	374.77

NOVEMBER

TOP 20 TITHES PER CAPITA

(Received by December 15, 1985)

1.	MCC Apostles of God	Huachuca City,	AZ	$ 52.07
2.	MCC of Grtr St. Louis	St. Louis,	MO	25.16
3.	MCC of the Disciples	Washington,	DC	20.46
4.	Agape MCC of Ft. Wrth	Ft. Worth,	TX	19.77
5.	Christ Chapel MCC	Santa Ana,	CA	17.26
6.	Oasis MCC	Tempe,	AZ	16.61
7.	New Covenant MCC	Garden Grove,	CA	16.00
8.	MCC Whitewater Valley	Richmond,	VA	15.87
9.	MCC of No. Virginia	Oakton,	VA	15.33
10.	MCC Brooklyn	Brooklyn,	NY	14.63
11.	River Cities MCC	Shreveport,	LA	13.92
12.	MCC Hartford	Hartford,	CT	13.90
13.	MCC Christ the Liberator	Princeton,	NJ	13.82
14.	Calvary MCC	Redwood City,	CA	13.81
15.	MCC Midland/Odessa	Midland,	TX	13.69
16.	Maranatha MCC	Colorado Springs,	CO	13.45
17.	MCC By the Sea	San Diego,	CA	13.32
18.	MCC of the Redwoods	Mill Valley,	CA	13.18
19.	MCC Diablo Valley	Concord,	CA	12.90
20.	MCC San Jose	San Jose,	CA	12.60

PRAYER REQUESTS

The Unitarian Church that MCC Louisville meets in was burned to the ground in the early morning hours of December 14th. They have met in this Historic Unitarian Church (pastored by Dr. Virginia Knowles) for nearly 8 years. No one was injured. Praise God. The cause of the fire is yet unknown.
MCC Louisville is temporarily meeting at the gay community center, and is negotiating for space in one of two churches that have offered. One of the churches is a Baptist church that ministers to a primarily deaf congregation.
MCC Louisville lost all their altar linens, altar ware, their office, and some furniture. In addition, the rent they were paying at the Unitarian Church was very low, so this will be a major adjustment.
MCC Louisville is pastored by Dee Dale-French, a student clergy. They were recently approved for chartering by the General Council. Please keep them in your prayers. Donations to help them rebuild are very much appreciated. Please send any contributions to: MCC Louisville, P.O. Box 32474, Louisville, KY 40232-0474.

Continued prayers for Jerry Knitzel prior Worship Coordinator of Johnson County MCC. Jerry is in the advanced stages of aids. His condition is stabilized. He is out of the hospital and is resting at home. Due to his weakened condition, he has been replaced by Pam Croacher as Worship Coordinator. Please keep her in your prayers as well. The church meetings are still being held in the basement of Jerry's home. Also, Jerry and his lover Kim celebrated their 10th anniversary recently! Congratulations!!

LENTEN STUDY SERIES ON AIDS

Faith Fellowship and Order has developed a six session study/dialogue series for spiritual growth in response to the aids crisis. This series is called "Do Not Fear, Only Believe" (Mark 5:36). One free copy is being sent to every MCC congregation. Additionally, copies may be ordered for $5.00 U.S. from Samaritan Extended Studies, P.O. Box 820, West Hartford, CT 06107. The price includes the study series itself, the 12 page F.F.O. document "Is aids God's Judgement," a cover, and shipping cost.

F.F.O. is asking every MCC congregation to consider using "Do Not Fear, Only Believe" during Lent (which begins February 12). The series is appropriate for other times as well.

Deborah Ivins would like to locate and identify other heterosexual members of UFMCC. She is interested in forming a support network for heterosexual UFMCC members. She would like to receive letters from those interested and want to know whether or not you might grant permission to share your information. Ms. Ivins attended General Conference in Sacramento, CA. Please send all correspondence to Ms. Deborah Ivins, c/o MCC Christ the Liberator, P.O. Box 703, Princeton, NJ 08540.

PRAISES

Rev. Elder Jean White is going to Indonesia early in January to visit with our new group there. Praise God!

The Northeast has pastors for all its churches!!

Rev. Hohn Nicholas was elected Pastor of MCC of the Ozarks and Student Clergy Emily Bell was elected Worship Coordinator of MCC Acadiana.

Rev. Steve Pieters recently appeared on the "Tammy Faye Baker Show" on the P.T.L. Network. He was interviewed for approximately 25 minutes on being Gay, Christian, and having aids. Tammy was very open about the Gay Christian experience, and spoke in favor of giving support to persons with aids. This represents a significant moment in Christian Broadcast history. Praise God for opening doors in ways we sometimes least expect.

OUR APOLOGIES TO ICM MEXICO CITY

Even during their time of crisis they were faithful in their contribution to Fellowship Sunday, and we overlooked their names in the last Keeping In Touch.

FELLOWSHIP UPDATE

The Clergy Manual has been revised and should be ready for distribution. The price is $13.00 and may be ordered from Rev. Claudia Vierra, Chair C.C.C.C. 172 San Carlos Way, Novato, CA 94947.

MCC Detroit is now looking for a full time Pastor. Everyone interested please contact MCC Detroit, c/o Mr. James Hohmann, 231401 Roanoke, Oak Park, MI 48237.

The Gulf and Lower Atlantic District is looking for a few good people...They are short two Assistant District Coordinators. Keep them in your prayers while the search continues. Please note the following:

JOB DESCRIPTION

Gentle of Spirit, good negotiator, and a firm hand under fire...unshakable faith in God's good future for the G.L.A.D.! Other than that, we can tolerate some human resemblance...
Anyone interested should contact Ms. Mary Moore, District Coordinator, G.L.A.D., P.O. Box 66101, Birmingham, AL 35210

Thanks to Rev. Karen Ziegler the United Nation's World Health Organization convened its first workshop on aids (acquired immuned deficiency syndrome), in Africa. The workshop included participants from nine Central African Countries plus international experts in clinical medicine, microbiology, epidemiology and public health. The following exerpts are from that workshop/meeting:

> In Africa, aids primarily affects the heterosexual population. The workshop participants recommended the establishment, whenever feasible, of a viable transfusion service supported by the laboratory and the limitation of blood transfusions to life-threatening situations.
> The participants also recommended the WHO help coordinate the establishment of necessary national surveillance systems, formulate the appropriate case definition and design a uniform case reporting format. In addition, WHO should collaborate in the preparation of educational programmes designed for target groups as well as health care personnel at all levels.

The Board of Elder Minutes - October 1985 are off the press and are included with this months K.I.T. to all the churches.

FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY UPDATE

The following churches have contributed to Fellowship Sunday since November 1985. We thank you all for your support and commitment to the continued vision of the UFMCC.

MCC Long Beach
St. John's MCC
Good News MCC
MCC of the Resurrection
MCC North London
MCC of So. Illinois
MCC Lubbock
MCC Portland
MCC Ventura
Midland/Odessa MCC
Modesto MCC

MCC Long Beach was faithful in contributing almost immediately to Fellowship Sunday, and their name slipped by us in the previous K.I.T.

ICM MEXICO CITY UPDATE

ICM Mexico City is on the move toward their own independence. Thanks to many of you who have given so willingly of your prayers and contributions. The folks in Mexico City have found a building to purchase. We do not have all the information as of this writing, however, we will keep you posted. The total amount received toward the building fund is $7,085.97 and the "relief" fund is $2,028.66. Gracias por todo sus apoyo y amor (support and love).

SAMARITAN COLLEGE

When I arrived at Samaritan College in 1983, I called the Veteran's Administration to inquire if Samaritan College as a religiously exempt school in California qualified for Veteran's educational benefits. I was told we did but that we had to go through an application process with the state. This last September we had our first student wanting to use their VA benefits. I pursued the process with state only to find out that the VA had given me incorrect information. The college must hold authorized status to qualify for the VA funds. I apologize for the confusion caused by this misinformation. We are preparing to apply for a change to authorized status in 1986 providing the necessary endowment funds become available. Please keep this in your prayers.

SAMARITAN EXTENDED STUDIES

REVISED POLITY CORRESPONDENCE COURSE READY

The Samaritan correspondence course UFMCC POLITY has been revised to include the 1985 General Conference and the Bylaw and structural changes made in our Fellowship at all three levels of government. The course costs $ 60 U.S., payable to Samaritan Extended Studies. The charge includes all reading materials. This course is appropriate for student clergy (meeting the Polity proficiency requirement); training for lay delegates, deacons, and members of local Board of Directors; and for other interested persons. Included are section on UFMCC Overview, the Calling of MCC, The History of MCC Through our General Conference and Bylaws, and the Current UFMCC Bylaws. Order from Samaritan Extended Studies, Box 820, West Hartford, CT 06107.

The following is a short Christmas Greeting to all of us at the UFMCC from the women at the California Institute for Women:

Our Christmas Wish To M.C.C.

We all here at C.I.W. wish all of you the Merriest Christmas ever. We're all very happy you have became a part of our lifes. We all look foward to our weekley meeting & the smiling faces & the words of Our God. We're pleased & our hearts are free to worship out front. So this Christmas a lot of us have somthing to be happy & thankful for, our Church.

Praise the name of the Lord our God.

(S[illegible])

HAVE A
HAPPY AND
Prosperous 1986
From the
UFMCC Staff

Rev. Nancy Wil

Rev. Jim Harris

Rev Ira D. P

Maryanne Mulligan

Eva Villanueva

Rev. Ro Hayford

Ravi Verma

Frank K. Zerilli

Michael Tottenreid

Marie

Cory Allison

Roberto Ochoa Schultz